

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Maeda

Serial No.: to be assigned

Filing Date: September 17, 2003

For: Method of Manufacturing a Threaded Joint for Oil Well Pipes

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to issuance of the first official action, please amend the above-captioned application as follows:

After the title, please insert

--This application is a continuation of International Patent Application No. PCT/JP01/02155, filed March 19, 2001. This PCT application was not in English as published under PCT Article 21(2)--.

coating and the contact surface.